



## GW I UPDATE 06 July 2016



*Members from the Egypt Association of Graduate Women donating books to encourage reading*

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### — Graduate Women International news —

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#### **Digital Technology and the Right to Education for All Peoples**

Technologies have become a powerful tool in reducing inequalities by providing equal access to education, knowledge and participation in civil society. In a panel at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Human Rights Council (HRC32), on 'Digital Technology and the Right to Education for all Peoples'; GWI United Nations (UN) Representative Ms Manjit Dosanjh explained that when adapted to local contexts, technology can be a highly efficient way of making resources available cheaply and bridging the access gap. This is exemplified by [The Centre for European Nuclear Research \(CERN\)](#) who run a global outreach teacher-training programme in particle physics, adapted to context. Ms Dosanjh emphasised that technology should never be considered a replacement for the holistic face-to-face learning with a human instructor, and the right to education should be protected by the public domain. For more information on the CERN programme, please see [here](#).

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### — GWI member news —

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#### **Empowerment through reading by the Egypt Association of Graduate Women (EAGW)**

Members from the [Egypt Association of Graduate Women \(EAGW\)](#), Alexandria, Sahar Gamal, Haidy Ibrahim and Hoda El Menawy (Coordinator of Women and Young Girls' Activities in the Ministry of Youth, Alexandria) participated in the Annual Women's Clubs Products Fair organised by the Egyptian Ministry of Youth. Books donated by them were all intended to serve the needs and interests of Egyptian women, as well as to encourage young girls to be more interested in science. EAGW has also in the past collected and donated books to women for free, aimed at using reading as an effective means of empowering women through knowledge. The activities of EAGW were inspired by the [Finnish Federation of Graduate Women's](#) literacy and cultural exchange project 'Lets Read Together'.

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### — Advocacy —

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#### **Gender equality in the media**

Over two decades ago, the landmark women's rights document the [Beijing Platform for Action \(BPfA\)](#) identified the media as one of the 'areas of particular urgency that stand out as priorities for action' in advancing gender equality and women's human rights. [Research has shown that, on average, only 24% of](#)

[people questioned, seen, heard or read about in the media are women](#). In addition, less than one in every five experts interviewed is a woman. The media, as champions of freedom of expression and with their function to promote diversity, should treat this imbalance as a threat to the free expression of half the world's population. [UNESCO in collaboration with the Global Alliance on Media and Gender](#), is pushing to increase female sources interviewed as experts in the news to 30%. [GWI advocates for gender equality in all sectors](#), including media, for innovation, accurate representation of society and to utilise the economic advantage of women's full participation in the workforce.

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## — Applications —

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### **UNU-GEST invites applications for fellowships**

United Nations University Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNI-GEST) at the University of Iceland is inviting government ministries and agencies, NGOs, civil society foundations and international development partners working in the field of gender equality to nominate and encourage promising young professionals to apply for five-month fellowships in the 2017 Post-Graduate Diploma Programme in international gender studies. The nomination call is accessible at: <http://gest.unu.edu/static/files/unu-gest-june-2016-open-call.pdf>. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Kristjana Sigurbjörnsdóttir, project manager at UNU-GEST ([kristjanas@hi.is](mailto:kristjanas@hi.is)) for further information.

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## — Give the gift of education —

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[Join our GlobalGiving](#) campaign and help us raise US \$50,000 to support 50 women student teachers in 2016. GWI provides scholarships and mentoring support to young women from rural areas of Uganda to become qualified teachers and ambassadors for girls' education. Donate now and help us train women teachers to train 1000s of students. You can read more about GWI's project Teachers for Rural Futures [here](#).

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## — Other information and events —

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July	14 - 15	<a href="#">Australian Higher Education Summit</a> Melbourne, Australia
July	21 - 23	<a href="#">3<sup>rd</sup> Network Gender and STEM Conference 2016</a> Newcastle, UK
August	08 – 19	<a href="#">Women's Human Rights Education Institute Intensive</a> Toronto, Canada
September	19 - 20	<a href="#">Preventing Violent Extremism through Education</a> New Delhi, India
October	22	<a href="#">IrFuW Annual Conference</a> Dublin, Ireland
October	25 - 26	<a href="#">International Universities Networking Conference</a> Istanbul, Turkey
Nov	28 - 30	<a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Women's Museums</a> , Mexico City

August 21 – 23

GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)

August 24 – 26

GWI Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)



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Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. GWI, formerly IFUW, is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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